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Henri Temianka Correspondence; (gebauer)

Werner Gebauer

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Henri Temianka Correspondence; (gebauer)

Description

This collection contains material pertaining to the life, career, and activities of Henri Temianka, violin virtuoso, conductor, music teacher, and author. Materials include correspondence, concert programs and flyers, music scores, photographs, and books.

Keywords

Henri Temianka, Werner Gebauer, October 23, 1968, virtuosity in musical performance, culture, violinist, chamber music, money, funds



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HENRI TEMIANKA FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR

23 October, 1968

Mr. Henri Temianka
2915 Patricia Avenue
Los Angeles, California 90064

Re: Brooktrails

Dear Henri:

I earnestly weighed the objections you voiced to me in the course of our several recent conversations on the subject matter.

A number of preparatory meetings in which I was involved were no more than maneuvers on my part, for the most advantageous position for you and the Society. There was nothing, nor could there have been, anything binding to us in these discussions. The diplomacy I deployed, even in retrospect, I believe to be sound. Preparatory outlines submitted to the Brooktrails management emphasized our position of non-financial involvement. In fact, they spelled out plainly that the financial burden rests solely with the developers and the communities.

After the first proposed junket to Brooktrails was cancelled, I deliberately gave matters a cooling-off period, not to appear too eager. Two weeks passed, and I was contacted by Mr. August, Public Relations Director of the Brooktrails people, who advised me that Bob Beaumont, Brooktrails President, was retaining him to give the Summer Festival Project priority; August also indicated that Beaumont wanted to meet with me at an early opportunity.

You can well see, Henri, that under the circumstances it would have been wrong strategy to propose a Summit Conference at this time, with Bradbury et al.

In fact, my subsequent meeting with Beaumont served to heighten the prestige factor of our Board and for you, as I was careful to point out to him that I do not propose to involve our Society until such time that several of the Board members would become acquainted with the Brooktrails site and approve of the rudimentary project outline.

This, then, brought about an immediate invitation for you and a select group of our Trustees to be Beaumont's guests at Brooktrails.

That is what I had hoped for-- on that visit I proposed to "unveil" our prestigious Board.

There was nothing secretive about my planning-- just sensible strategy.

You received knowledge of the overall project as early as July 30th, when I forwarded to you a copy of my letter to R. E. Rockefeller with its outline and concept of an annual Summer Festival at Brooktrails.

My subsequent oral report to the Board, August 26th, was met with stony silence, which not only embarrassed me, but apparently also Greta, Emily, Eleanor and Max Fink, all of whom came to me after the meeting and voiced their desire to see me succeed with this exciting project.

On October 9th, I had a five-page report on the Brooktrails matter stenciled, which was handed out to the members of the Executive Committee. For all I know, I might as well have saved the paper it was written on.

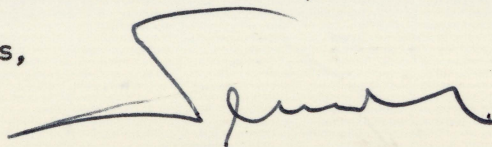
While I have more or less become inured to the lukewarm displays of involvement by our executive branch, I was puzzled, hurt and deflated when you completely ignored the report; no comment, good, bad or indifferent.

This project could represent the greatest single advance for this Society since its inception. Not even the least well disposed individual in our Society could accuse me of fashioning a vehicle for personal aggrandizement. It would seem self-evident that you, Henri, stand to gain the most once this project reaches fruition.

Brooktrails went to a great deal of trouble and considerable expense to invite us up north. The Korsen and Kurtzman cancellations on short notice certainly must make these people wonder if they can take us seriously.

Frankly, Henri, I am disenchanted to a point where I cannot help but feel that all the talk of admiration of my initiative in behalf of the Society is in effect no more than lip service.

Yours,



Werner Gebauer, PhD.

WG/ap